

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

The DAILY DISPATCH is delivered to subscribers at FIFTY CENTS per month, payable to the carrier weekly or monthly. Mailed at \$5 per annum, payable in advance; \$3 for six months; \$1.50 for three months; 50 cents for one month. Price per copy, 3 cents.

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The SUNDAY DISPATCH at \$5.00 per annum, or 75 cents for six months.

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of ours.

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UP-TOWN OFFICE, BROAD-STREET
PHARMACY, 519 EAST BROAD
STREET.

MANCHESTER OFFICE, 126 HULL
STREET.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1899.

AN OLD-FASHIONED WINTER.

This is such a winter as we used to hear
our fathers talk about. It is "a real old-
fashioned winter." The farmers have had
several good opportunities to fill their
ice-houses; the ground is covered with
snow; trees are encased in ice; fuel is
in lively demand, and the birds are starv-
ing save where kindly persons are
thoughtful enough to provide them with
food.

But we Virginians are not the only
people thus afflicted, or favored, as the
case may be. The rigors of this winter
have been felt over all the country. In
many places, upon the great plains, cat-
tle are reported as dying. Heavy winds,
in addition to intense cold, have endan-
gered shipping on our eastern coast.
In Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia the
fruit crop is seriously threatened by
reason of the breakage of trees weighed
down with heavy coats of ice. In the
cotton States preparations for the new
crop have been interfered with, and early
vegetables have met with a setback. The
orange-trees of Florida may be injured,
too, for at Jacksonville the temperature
has been at the freezing point.

Thus we see that the old-fashionedness
of this winter has prevailed over a wide
extent of territory, and has affected many
interests. And yet much good may re-
sult. Though fuel may be scarce and
high now, we may hope for cheap ice
when the heat of summer is upon us. And
though we suffer now from la grippe,
we may trust that some few billions of
insects and microbes have perished from
cold; also, that the earth will be so re-
frigerated and "embalmed" that it will
produce abundantly during the coming
season.

If "old-fashioned winters" were accom-
panied by "the good old times," they
must be beneficial now, also. The laws
of nature have not changed, though the
government has been revolutionized, and
though boys no longer delight to play in
the snow in red-topped boots and mittens
of mamma's knitting.

In another thing there has been no
change—the poor are with us yet, and
they are as sensitive to cold and hunger
as they were twenty-five or fifty years
ago. During all this bitter weather there
have been families among us whose
chief supply of fuel came from ash-
dumps. They went and watched the
carts unload and scrambled among them
themselves for the clinders, for there is
rarely enough for each corner to provide
himself or herself with a scuttlet.

From surface indications we see here
there must be a great deal of suffering
among Richmond's poor, and this despite
the efforts of many noble and zealous
charitable organizations that we are for-
tunate to have. Alas! there are many
persons too proud to make their wants
known, and in consequence suffer from
gnawing stomachs while they shiver in
ill-heated garrets.

When we think of these things, much
as we love a robustous winter, we can-
not but wish it gone and balmy weather
come instead. However, the days
are lengthening, and it will not be
very long before our land is released from
this icy embrace, and we shall be "in
the midst" of an "old-fashioned" spring.

ELECTING GOVERNORS.

The Fredericksburg Free Lance says:
"In speaking of Governor Tyler one of
our Virginia contemporaries says: He
will justly succeed himself if he so de-
sires. The editor should read the laws of
Virginia."

In commenting on this the Fredericks-
burg Free Lance remarks:

"And if he does read the Code of 1887,
and all the session acts subsequent there-
to, he'll find not a law on the subject.
We beg to refer our esteemed contem-
porary to the State Constitution, which
contains the clause that prohibits a Gov-
ernor of Virginia from succeeding him-
self. From Patrick Henry in 1776 to J.
Hoge Tyler, no Governor of Virginia has
ever succeeded himself—i. e., served two
terms consecutively—though Patrick Hen-
ry, James Monroe, and William Smith,
('Extra Billy') each twice served as
Governor of the State, but not in consecutive
terms."

Hasn't the usually accurate Free Lance
been caught napping a little bit? We
think so. If it will turn to the note on
page 198 of the Code of 1873, and run over
the list of governors from Henry to
Glies, inclusive, and then examine the
provision for the election of Governor in
the Constitution of 1776, it will find that

several governors succeeded themselves—
i. e., served consecutive terms. Then,
coming further down, it will find that
Governor Johnson served a term—a short
term, it is true—under the Constitution of
1850, and succeeded himself in a consecu-
tive term under the Constitution of
1882.

The Constitution of 1776 provided that
the Governor should be chosen annually
by joint ballot of the two houses of the
General Assembly, and should not con-
tinue in office more than three years suc-
cessively, nor be eligible until the expira-
tion of four years after he should have
been out of office. The Constitution of
1850 provided that the governors should
be elected by joint ballot of the two
houses for a term of three years, and
should be ineligible to the office for three
years next after the expiration of his
term. The Constitution of 1882 provided
that the Governor should be elected by
the voters, should hold office for a term
of four years, and be ineligible to the
same office for the term next succeeding
that for which he was elected. The pre-
sent Constitution, as bearing on these
points, is identical with the Constitution
of 1882.

EXEMPT TO THE CANAL.

The Nicaragua canal bill, having passed
the Senate and been reported to the
House, with a substitute therefor, now
waits upon Speaker Reed's pleasure. He
is said to be hostile to the scheme. Why
he has taken that position is a matter of
comment more or less unfavorable to
him; but the fact remains that unless
extraordinary tactics are resorted to by
the friends of the bill it cannot be voted
upon at this session.

And so the New York Herald is informed
by its Washington correspondent that
there is a plan on foot in the Senate to
tack on to the House river and harbor
bill the House substitute for the Senate
canal bill. In that way, it is thought,
the question surely may be brought be-
fore the House, where it is believed the
majority of members favor a canal.

We do not know whether this scheme
is seriously entertained or not. To be-
gin with, it may turn out that the friends
of the appropriations for rivers and har-
bors may not be willing to imperil their
bill in that way. If the Speaker is as
hostile to the canal bill as he is reputed
to be, he may be willing to see the river
and harbor bill killed rather than have
his sweet will overruled.

However, the patrons of the canal bill
are shrewd and experienced legislators,
and we may be sure will carefully study
the situation.

It is a shame that a great measure,
such as this, should be subject to the
pleasure of one man; but the Republicans
have put this power in his hands and
have encouraged him to use it. Certainly,
therefore, they cannot complain of him;
but the public generally are bound to be
resentful of his autocratic interference.

It used to be the province of the Speaker
to facilitate business, so that members
might give prompt and proper considera-
tion to the measures brought before the
House. Now, Mr. Reed often assumes to
decide whether a bill is a desirable one
or not.

His power is great; his prejudice and
partisanship phenomenal, and most of the
members of his party stand in awe of
him. But if the Republicans of the House
ever mean to protest against his insolent
bearing now is the time to do it.

If they would show the proper spirit
they could force the Speaker to allow
the Senate bill, with House substitute,
to be voted upon. Instead of having to
resort to the expedient we have men-
tioned in connection with the river and
harbor bill.

While there are obvious difficulties in
the way of the canal bill, it by no means
follows that it will fall of passage at this
session. We shall see what we shall see,
and in the course of a few days.

MISUNDERSTOOD.

The report that Russia had made a se-
cret agreement with Afghanistan by
which the former would be permitted to
extend the Transcaspian railway to Herat
is indignantly denied in St. Petersburg.
The report, it is claimed, originated in
the opening of the Russian line to Kusk,
a point 200 or 300 miles away from Herat.
The proclamation of the American's, which
caused such a stir in London, was, it is
said, misunderstood. The arrival of the
first locomotive scared the natives of the
surrounding country so badly that Ab-
durrahman felt constrained to assure
them that Russia had no object save the
development of trade. At the same time
he also assured them that Afghanistan
could depend upon her allies in the event
of any aggressive movement on the part
of Russia.

However, the fact remains that the
Kush line is a counterpart of a strategic
railway the British have constructed on
their side of the Afghan frontier, and
there appears no doubt that both sides
are quietly preparing for the forward
movement when the time shall become
ripe. Neither is losing sight of possi-
bilities.

The British profess to have knowledge
that Russia is collecting at Kusk material
for the rapid building of a light rail-
road to Herat in case such a line should
become necessary, while the Russians
claim knowledge that the British are ac-
cumulating material with a similar ob-
ject in view. And according to pretty
good authority, neither is far out of the
way.

ANDY JACKSON.

The Bristol News publishes in its issue
of Saturday a two-column editorial, sug-
gesting the probability that General An-
drew Jackson was born in Ireland. Hith-
erto it has been said that Jackson was
born in the Waxhaw settlement, but
whether that settlement was in North or
South Carolina has been the subject of
dispute. Jackson in his nullification pro-
clamation refers to South Carolina as his
"native State."

The News's contention is founded upon
an entry in the parish register of Car-
rickfergus, Ireland, from which place
Jackson's parents emigrated to this
country. There the marriage of Mr. and
Mrs. Jackson appears; also, the birth to
them of three children, one named An-
drew. This last child was born about a
year before the Jacksons sailed for
America. Again, the testimony of Robert
Desay is produced to show that General
Jackson said in his presence that he
was born on ship board "before the ship
landed at Charleston."

It is argued by the News that the true
place of Jackson's birth was concealed
when he became prominent, because if it
had been confessed he would have been
ineligible to the presidency.

Theodore A. Havemeyer, Jr., the mil-
lionaire, is now serving as a juror in New
York at \$2 a day. He will probably not
throw the money away.

CAN PREVENT IT.

Since Mr. McKinley's "sneaking down" of
Bryan, there is renewed revolt all along
the Republican line against the adminis-
tration's persistency in shielding Alger,
and this revolt is taking a form which
is calculated to cause the President to
unload Algerism, if anything can.

Mr. McKinley is being plainly told by
some of the most pronounced Republican
organs in the country that his course in
respect to this matter is seriously dan-
gering the future of the Republican
party and the President's own political
future.

The New York Independent, for in-
stance, than which Mr. McKinley has
heretofore had no warmer supporter,
warns him that "the supremacy of the
Republican party is menaced, as the wel-
fare of the army has thus far un-
dermined, by the evil failure of the Presi-
dent to perceive either how deplorable
their influence is or how obnoxious they
have become in the public mind." The
Independent then goes on to say that
Algerism menaces the President's political
prospects, and declares that "if he per-
sists in clinging to the Secretary he will
go down with him."

The Independent only echoes a senti-
ment that is manifesting itself in various
other Republican quarters, and when we
consider that the President's entire policy
has been directed towards securing his
own succession, we can well understand
the influence such comments as these
from such sources is likely to have. At
the same time we would say that even
should he resolve to-day to unload the
embalmed beef burden, if the Democracy
are not criminally blind to their oppor-
tunities they can prevent that from
"saving his bacon."

SENATOR MARTIN'S DENIAL.

In yesterday's issue of the Dispatch we
copied the following from the editorial
columns of the New York Herald:

"I am unalterably opposed to the treaty.
I would oppose it if every American sol-
dier in the Philippines were shot down.
It would merely be adding fuel to my
mind that we did not want the islands."
"Such are the words attributed to Sen-
ator Martin, of Virginia. It seems impos-
sible that any American with a breath
of patriotism or a spark of loyalty to the
flag could so express himself."
"The Herald confidently awaits Senator
Martin's indignant denial of such a cold-
blooded refutation of our soldiers and the
cause for which they have fought and
bled."

CHARLOTTESVILLE.

Personal Notes—An Extremely Cold
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every State in the Union. The deadlocks
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are becoming weary from such proceed-
ings. We hope the people of Virginia may
be wiser in the election of our next
United States Senator.

Good Work.

(Norfolk Ledger.)

Ex-Minister-to-Liberta John H. Smyth
(colored) is engaged in a good work for
his race in Virginia—the establishment of
a reformatory for boys. Such benevolent
work is far better than wading time on
politics and the advancement of personal
interests. What the negroes want is to
have a few hundred of their own people
to fall in love with their race and go to
work for its improvement, rather than
be idle and trying to get public office
and emolument for the few.

The Modern Way.

commends itself to the well-informed, to
do pleasantly and effectively what was
formerly done in a crude and disagreeable
manner. To cleanse the system and break
up colds, headaches, and fevers without
unpleasant after-effects, use the delightful
liquid laxative, Syrup of Fig. Made by California
Fig-Syrup Company.

Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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PETERSBURG.

Talk of Peanut Trust Revived—Other
Mention.

PETERSBURG, VA., February 9.—(Spe-
cial.)—It is reported that efforts are
again to be made to secure options on
the several peanut-cleaning factories in
this city, with the view of combining
them in the great peanut trust, which is
to control the entire output of the coun-
try. Mr. W. E. Weatherly, of New York
city, who has been working to this end in
Norfolk, is expected to visit and confer
with the Petersburg cleaners. He was
here some months ago, in promotion of
this scheme, and then secured options on
some of our factories. But the time for
these options expired, and they were al-
lowed to lapse. What Mr. Weatherly may
accomplish by his expected visit, and
whether the options formerly secured will
be renewed, cannot be foretold, as the
peanut dealers are reticent about the
matter.

Mrs. Theresa J., widow of Charles T.
Williamson, died at her residence, on
Guarantee street, at an early hour this
morning, aged 66 years. Her death was
caused by consumption. Mrs. Williamson
was Miss Ashbrooke, of Chesterfield. Her
husband died only a few weeks ago, and
of a large family of children only two
sons survive her. She was a devoted
Christian, and her beautiful faith shone
brightly in her character and works
throughout her life.

It may be stated that while negotiations
to the Petersburg Street Railway, the
Richmond syndicate has not yet been
consummated. The sale, however, may
be effected at any time. It is said that
the new owners, if they secure the prop-
erty, will improve and extend the line
with a view to permanent investment. If
properly extended and equipped, there is
no doubt the line will pay well.

Mrs. L. D. Stringer died this morning
at her husband's residence, on Canal
street, of pneumonia. She leaves two
children, one of whom is ill of the same
disease.

Rev. Arthur S. Lloyd, of Norfolk, who
has been conducting mission services at
St. John's Episcopal church, died this
morning of pneumonia. He will return to
his work here to-morrow.

The extremely bad condition of the
country roads has had the effect of in-
creasing the wood craze. Only limited
supplies can be obtained, and con-
sumers are forced to be very economi-
cal.

The weather last night was extremely
cold, the thermometer this morning regis-
tering a temperature of 14 degrees be-
low zero. A well-known citizen,
has been confined to his bed by
sickness for several days.

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